Pharm

AUG - 7 1990

Pharmacology Review

NDA 19-908

Drug: Zolpidem

Sponsor: Lorex Pharmaceuticals
Skokie, Illinois 60077

Subject: Request for further nonclinical studies.

The firm has changed the method of drug synthesis. All nonclinical toxicological studies were conducted with drug made by another route of synthesis. The mode of current synthesis is such that impurities, although not identified, would be different from impurities produced by the previous synthesis. In order to test for possible toxic effects of impurities in the current drug product, we recommend:

1. A complete 1 month oral toxicity study in the rat. This should include determination of clinical signs, body weight, hematology, blood chemistry, urinalysis, gross pathology, organ weights and histopathology (similar in design to the Firm's one month gavage study in rats but excluding the pharmacokinetic studies; study no 91.03.82.063).

2. A mutagenic screen similar to the screen done with the previous drug product.

If similar results are obtained in these studies to results from earlier studies then no further nonclinical studies would be required.

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Pharmacologist

cc: NDA 19-908
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